

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

**December 25 Winter Storm
Situation Report #2
26 December 2010 0700 hours**

Updated material in bold

SUMMARY

Governor McDonnell declared a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia at 1130 hours on 25 December 2010 authorizing state agencies to assist local governments responding to potential major winter storm forecasted to impact the Commonwealth beginning Saturday, 25 December, through Monday, 27 December, with potential snow accumulations of 6 to 10 inches. **Forecast models have proven accurate with current snow totals ranging from 0.2 to 5.00 inches.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION

EOC Activation: VEOC at Response Operations with limited augmentation beginning 1300 hours 25 December 2010. Full augmentation with ESF staffing will begin 0700 26 December 2010.

State of Emergency: Governor McDonnell declared an emergency for the Commonwealth at 1130 on 25 December 2010.

Local Protective Actions: **Four (4) localities have reported.**

Local Emergencies Declared:

None reported at this time.

Local Emergency Operation Centers Opened:

None reported open at this time.

Requests for Assistance Received:

No requests for assistance at this time.

VERT Operations / Priorities

- Ensure life safety of the public and first responders during the event.
- Maintain situational awareness, especially regarding traffic conditions, power outages, and potential sheltering and life-threatening events.
- Maintain traffic flow on interstates and primary roads.
- Provide timely information and messaging to the public and other stakeholders regarding the event.
- Be ready to provide resource information and assistance to localities and state agencies.
- Anticipate worst-case scenario events and be proactive in prepositioning resources and providing information to other decision makers.

ESF 1 – Transportation **VA Department of Transportation (VDOT)**
Anti-icing began on roadways. Road clearing operations commenced overnight. Impact to secondary roads is extensive due to amount of snow.

ESF 8 – Public Health **VA Department of Health (VDH)**
Monitoring situation and will collaborate on information sharing, shelter staffing, warming stations, and status of health care facilities.

ESF 16 – Military Support

VA Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Approximately 100 personnel alerted in the Hampton Roads region. Other personnel are on standby in other regions of the Commonwealth.

ESF 15 – External Affairs

VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Coordinating with VDOT and Governor's Office.

Provided news release on emergency declaration to Governor's Press Office for statewide dissemination; handled media request for information; provided information to public via social media and monitored social media for information/trends pertinent to event; coordinated work plan with other state agency PIOs.

Governor Bob McDonnell was interviewed live via phone by The Weather Channel reviewing preparedness and response activities. Interview repeated several times throughout the evening/morning. VERT PIO conducted two (2) telephone interviews; Fox News Radio and Associated Press.

VERT PLANNING SECTION

Conducting conference calls with National Weather Service Offices, State, Federal, Private, Volunteer, and Local partners; maintaining situational awareness; producing State Situation Reports

Weather Forecast:

Southwest/West Central VA: Winter Storm Warning is in effect until 1300 Monday for portions of the area. Winter Weather Advisory in effect until 1900 Sunday for counties not impacted by Winter Storm Warning. Occasional snow will continue through Monday morning for most of the area then diminish to flurries in the afternoon. North winds between 8 and 15 mph with higher gusts up to 25 will develop today ushering in more cold air producing blowing and drifting snow. Daytime temperatures are not expected to be above 26 degrees. Overnight lows near 16.

Northwest/Northern VA: Winter Storm Warning is in effect until 0600 Monday for areas along and east of the I-95 corridor. Additional snow accumulations of 2 to 4 inches can be expected today. A Winter Weather Advisory remains in effect until 0200 Monday for areas not impacted by Winter Storm Warning. North winds from 10 to 15 mph can be expected with gusts to 25 mph Sunday afternoon; gusts to 40 mph expected Sunday night. Daytime temperatures are not expected to be above 30 degrees. Overnight lows near 25.

Central/Eastern VA: A Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 0500 Monday for most of the area due to an intensifying low pressure moving up the east coast. Snow will continue today resulting in 3 to 12 inches of accumulation across the area with the larger amounts occurring further to the east. Accumulating snow will continue into Sunday evening. A Winter Weather Advisory remains in effect until noon Sunday for portions of the area. Northwest winds from 10 to 15 mph can be expected today increasing to 15 to 20 mph with gusts to 30 mph this afternoon and 35 mph Sunday night. Daytime temperatures are not expected to be above 35 degrees. Overnight lows near 20.

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